

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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## **ABC GRANT PROGRAMS LAUNCHED TO REDUCE UNDERAGE DRINKING AND INCREASE YOUTH SAFETY**

*State sends money to Sacramento Police and Sacramento County Sheriff's Departments*

**Sacramento** — Sacramento County Sheriff John McGinness and Sacramento Police Chief Albert Najera will join the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and Sacramento State University Police Chief Ken Barnett to announce they will be working together to ramp up enforcement and reduce youth access to alcohol.

The increased efforts come from the ABC's \$3 million Grant Assistance Program (GAP). ABC is funding 41 agencies throughout California this year. The program funding is double the amount of last year's program.

The Sacramento Police have received \$125,000 and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department received \$101,000 to reduce underage drinking, arrest obviously intoxicated individuals and work on problem locations where alcohol is sold. The announcement was made on the Sacramento State campus. It is timely because the Labor Day weekend has begun and university classes begin on Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Sacramento State Police say that even though problem drinking is less of a problem at Sacramento State than on many campuses, students here not immune to the problems associated with high-risk drinking. Recent surveys found that Sacramento State students generally drink less than their counterparts and that the campus wants to challenge the notion that excessive drinking is part of the college experience.

Throughout the semester, Sacramento State and its University Police will work with local law enforcement agencies to coordinated efforts to prevent underage drinking, educate students of legal drinking age how to be responsible and safe party hosts and enforce current laws that discourage both drinking and driving, and alcohol consumption by minors. These efforts include:

- A "Wanna Party?" brochure that provides information on how to serve alcohol responsibly, deal with intoxicated guests and be a good neighbor, as well as what to do if a party gets out of control. The brochures were distributed at freshmen orientation and are being provided to managers of large apartment complexes near campus. Student behavior data collected for the Safer California Universities Study by the Prevention Resource Center indicates that the majority of student drinking problems are generated at house and apartment parties where most drinkers are underage rather than at bars and restaurants.
- Undercover or "decoy" operations at stores that sell alcohol to ensure they are not selling to minors.
- Party patrols in neighborhoods to identify and intervene in out-of-control party situations.
- An increase in the number and frequency of DUI checkpoints near the campus to discourage drunken drinking.

Media assistance is available by contacting the Sacramento State public affairs office at (916) 278-6156.

*Sacramento State is making a difference in California's Capital Region and beyond. We offer a life-changing opportunity for our 28,000 students, preparing them to be leaders in their fields and communities. Our professors are known for their dedication to great teaching. And our location in the capital of the nation's largest state allows students to pursue unique internships and research.*

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